

Sociology

College of Letters and Science (<http://ls.berkeley.edu>)

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Department Website: Sociology (<http://sociology.berkeley.edu>)

Overview

The Department of Sociology is a product of the depth and breadth of its faculty, in particular their varying fields of interests and methodological styles, as well as the high caliber and diversity of the students we attract. The department offers intellectual scope and theoretical strength. Current faculty are carrying out scholarly inquiries and empirical studies in the following fields, among others: social inequalities, race and ethnic relations, gender, education, political sociology, development and globalization, economy and society, organizations and work, sociology of culture, social networks, religion, social psychology, historical and comparative studies, demography, urban sociology, poverty, welfare states, and social theory. Lower division courses are offered to introduce students to the field of sociology and provide critical tools in evaluating research studies in the field. Sociology survey courses provide further overview and introduction to various substantive areas within sociology. The department offers a wide variety of more specialized upper division courses, as well as seminars that focus on advanced topics and research in the field.

Students intending to major in sociology are advised to prepare themselves by taking background work in such other areas as history, philosophy, cultural anthropology, psychology, economics, and political science.

Students who plan to go on to graduate work in sociology or other related disciplines and professions or who plan to participate in the senior honors seminar are strongly urged to take advanced sociological methods: Sociology 105, 106, or 107A-107B.

Major Requirements

Students in the College of Letters and Science may complete a major in sociology, by completing all 12 major requirements listed below with at least a 2.0 major grade point average (GPA).

Lower Division Prerequisites

Sociology 1, Sociology 5, as well as a course in either statistics or logic. Students who have received credit for more than two upper division sociology courses before taking an introductory sociology course must substitute another survey course for Sociology 1. Students may declare as soon as they have enrolled in their last prerequisite. At least one sociology course must be completed at the time of declaration. Students are required to have a 2.0 GPA both cumulative and in the major to be eligible to declare the major, and to maintain academic good standing in the major.

Upper Division Course Requirements

Theory Requirement: Two courses in sociological theory:

- Sociology 101 and 102
- Sociological Theory I and Sociological Theory II (formerly Sociology 101A and 101B)

Survey Requirement: Sociology majors are required to take two courses from the following list of sociology "survey" courses, each from a different substantive area in sociology. Students may take these courses under the new or old number, if there is a change in spring 2010:

- 110 Organizations and Social Institutions
- 120 (formerly 143) Economy and Society
- 130 or 130AC Social Inequalities
- 140 Politics and Social Change
- 150, 150A Social Psychology, or L&S C180V
- 160 Sociology of Culture
- 180C, 180E, 180I, or 180P (formerly 122, 122A) Comparative Perspectives and Area Studies in Sociology

Additional courses in each of these areas are grouped together under similar numbers to the applicable survey course, e.g. other courses in organizations and social institutions will be in the 110 numbers—111, 112, etc. Students are strongly advised to take the survey course for that substantive area before other courses in that area, though this is not a requirement. The survey course serves as a foundation for all other courses in that substantive area.

Sociology Electives: Four additional upper division sociology courses, not already used for other sociology major requirements, or graduate sociology courses (subject to instructor approval). Courses taken from the survey course list in excess of the two required, or additional upper division seminar courses, will count as electives.

Capstone Seminar/Research: One seminar course that will serve as the capstone experience in sociology: 190, H190B, 190AC, 107B, and possibly other advanced sociology courses (see an undergraduate adviser).

Note: Sociology 5, 101, and 102 must be completed with at least a C-grade.

Honors Program

Majors who enter their senior year with a 3.3 GPA overall and a 3.5 GPA in the major may apply to the honors program, after conferring with a major adviser. Students will be required to submit an acceptable thesis proposal as part of their application and are encouraged to take advanced methods courses, such as Sociology 105, 106, and 107A-107B during their junior year in preparation for conducting research for their honors thesis. Students earn honors by maintaining the minimum GPA for honors and by successfully completing Sociology H190A-190B, Senior Honors Thesis and Seminar.

Graduate Program

Information about the graduate program and admissions may be obtained from the Department of Sociology website (<http://sociology.berkeley.edu>) or from the graduate office at 422 Barrows Hall, (510) 642-1445. Applications are accepted for the fall semester only; the deadline is December 13.

Courses

For more detailed information about courses, course descriptions are available on the Department of Sociology (<http://sociology.berkeley.edu>) website (<http://sociology.berkeley.edu>) several months before the beginning of each semester.

SOCIOL 1 Introduction to Sociology 4 Units

Department: Sociology

Course level: Undergraduate

Terms course may be offered: Fall and spring

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 2 to 3 hours of Lecture and 2 hours of Discussion per week for 15 weeks.

Introduces students who are considering majoring in sociology to the basic topics, concepts, and principles of the discipline. This course is required for the major; 1 or any version of 3 is prerequisite for other sociology classes; students not considering a sociology major are directed to any version of 3.

Not open to students who have taken 3, 3A or 3AC.

SOCIOL 3AC Principles of Sociology: American Cultures 4 Units

Department: Sociology

Course level: Undergraduate

Terms course may be offered: Fall, spring and summer

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 3 hours of Lecture per week for 15 weeks. 5.5 hours of Lecture per week for 8 weeks. 7.5 hours of Lecture per week for 6 weeks.

Comparing the experience of three out of five ethnic groups (e.g. African Americans, Asian Americans, Chicano/Latino, European Americans, and Native Americans) we shall examine historically how each people entered American society and built communities and transformed their cultures in the process. Students will be introduced to the sociological perspective, characteristic methods of research, and such key concepts as culture, community, class, race, social change, and social movements.

Satisfies the American Cultures requirement

Students will not receive credit for 3 or 3AC after taking 1. Deficiency in 3 or 3A may be removed by completing 3AC. No credit for 3AC after 3 or 3A.

SOCIOL 5 Evaluation of Evidence 4 Units

Department: Sociology

Course level: Undergraduate

Terms course may be offered: Fall, spring and summer

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 3 hours of Lecture and 2 hours of Discussion per week for 15 weeks. 4.5 hours of Lecture and 3 hours of Discussion per week for 10 weeks. 5.5 hours of Lecture and 3.5 hours of Discussion per week for 8 weeks.

A review of methodological problems in assessing data relating to social life. Topics to be covered include: posing a sociological problem, gaining access to data, measuring, establishing correlation and causal connection among data, and relating data to theoretical context.

SOCIOL 7 Statistics for Social Scientists 4 Units

Department: Sociology

Course level: Undergraduate

Term course may be offered: Summer

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 6 hours of Lecture per week for 8 weeks.

This course is intended as a first course in statistics, covering basic concepts of descriptive and inferential statistics. Students will analyze and display small bodies of data and will interpret and evaluate research findings.

SOCIOL 98 Directed Group Study 1 - 4 Units

Department: Sociology

Course level: Undergraduate

Terms course may be offered: Fall, spring and summer

Grading: Offered for pass/not pass grade only.

Hours and format: Individual and group conferences.

Prerequisites: Consent of Instructor.

Group studies of selected topics which vary over time